

"SPORTING LIFE"
Universal Film Production
Starring Bart Lytell

OCT 20 1925

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SPORTING LIFE

Photoplay in 7 reels

From the play by Seymour Hicks
and Cecil Raleigh

Directed by Maurice Tourneur

Author of the photoplay (under section 62)
Universal Pictures Corporation of U.S.

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Lord Woodstock, a lavish spender, goes broke on a London musical comedy venture, and shows his sportsmanship by extravagantly feasting the parting cast in which Olive Carteret, a dancer, is the star, while he holds off eager creditors until after the Derby, which he is confident of winning with his horse, Lady Love. Olive, presuming to have the inside track with Woodstock, snubs Nora Cavanaugh, daughter of Woodstock's trainer, wounding the girl's feelings. Woodstock, overhearing, reproaches Olive and disclaims any intention of marrying her.

For revenge, Olive becomes friendly with Joe Lee, a fighter who is backed by Woodstock and whose defeat will mean Woodstock's ruin. Conspiring with Philips, a crooked gambler who desires Woodstock's downfall, she lures Lee to her apartment on the night of the fight and drugs him. He reaches the arena but faints in the ring.

Woodstock, who has trained with Lee, takes advantage of a sportsman's prerogative and names himself to fight the champion. He answers the taunts of Philips by covering a heavy wager offered by the gambler. Woodstock wins the fight.

Joe Lee, disgraced, and enraged at the trick that has been played on him, sneaks into Olive's apartment in time to hear her plot with Philips to force Woodstock to withdraw his horse from the race by kidnapping the girl he loves, Nora Cavanaugh, and threatening her life. When Philips leaves, Lee, beside himself with rage, murders Olive and escapes to warn Woodstock. They are too late. The girl is missing and her room is in disorder, indicating a struggle. But Lee recalls the name of the slum dive mentioned by Philips. Making their way to the slums, they locate the place, but both are trapped by the thugs who threaten harm to the girl until she becomes terror stricken. Woodstock agrees to sign the order for the withdrawal of his entry. As he picks up the pen, Lee overturns the table and starts a fight during which the three escape through the window and over the roofs, but one of the men is shot and falls to the ground. The thugs recognize Woodstock's ulster on the dead man and phone the race track telling Philips of the tragedy. Philips announces the death of Woodstock and demands that Lady Love be withdrawn, bringing up an old track rule that a deceased owner cannot have an entry.

It turns out, however, that Lee exchanges coats with Woodstock in order to draw the fire of the thugs away from the man who tried to make him a champion. Woodstock arrives at the track with Nora in a speed car and re-enters his horse. Lady Love wins.

Philips, not knowing that Woodstock is still alive, tells the judges that he bought Lady Love that morning and her winnings belong to him. For answer, Woodstock charges him with murder and he is taken away. Woodstock is happy, with his fortune re-won and with the future mistress of his domain at his side.

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